

FISH & WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Meeting Date: June 11, 2015

Agenda Item: 2015 Antelope Quotas Outside Biennial Quota Ranges

Division: Wildlife

Action Needed: Proposed

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 5 minutes

Background

The Fish & Wildlife Commission has previously adopted a numerical range for antelope licenses for each hunting district within which FWP can make changes that do not need Commission approval. However, changes outside the adopted range do need Commission approval. Proposed changes to antelope quota ranges outside the adopted range are listed below. No other changes are proposed.

- Decrease the South Belts Hunt District 390-20 either-sex licenses from 50 to 35
- Decrease the South Belts HD 390-30 doe/fawn licenses from 75 to 35

The objectives of the proposed changes are to increase overall antelope numbers and improve the buck/doe ratio. In 2014, there were 242 antelope observed during a total-coverage aerial survey of the district with 36 buck seen for a buck/doe ratio of 25/100. These numbers are down considerably from a high count of 630 with 52 bucks per 100 does seen in 2008. While there are no formal objectives for numbers or buck ratio, FWP is managing for approximately 475 antelope (± 15 percent) with 40 bucks per 100 does. More information is available in the season justification found in the Commission packet.

Public Involvement Process & Results

Formal public comment will run through 5 p.m., Thursday, July 2. Any final adoption will take place at the July 9 Commission meeting.

Alternatives and Analysis

No alternatives were considered.

Agency Recommendation & Rationale

FWP recommends that the Commission approve for public comment the proposed changes to antelope license ranges.

Proposed Motion

I move that the Commission approve for public comment the changes to antelope license quotas as recommended by FWP.